

Application No. 10/568,207
Response dated February 25, 2010
Non-Final Office Action mailed on August 25, 2009

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the Claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 47. (Canceled)

48. (Currently Amended) A system for providing secure access to a controlled item, the system comprising:

a transmitter subsystem for enrolling biometric signatures into a database,
using a legitimate sequence of one or more biometric signals to enrol each biometric signature, and for providing an accessibility attribute if when a legitimate biometric signal is received; and

a receiver sub-system for providing access to the controlled item dependent upon said accessibility attribute.

49. (Currently Amended) A transmitter sub-system adapted for ~~operation to operate~~ in a system for providing configured to provide secure access to a controlled item, the system further including a processor, a memory, and a receiver sub-system ~~configured to provide~~ for providing access to the controlled item dependent upon an accessibility attribute received from the transmitter sub-system; wherein the a transmitter subsystem comprises:

means for enrolling biometric signatures into the memory and a database,
using a legitimate sequence of one or more biometric signals to enroll each
biometric signature; and

means for providing the accessibility attribute if when a legitimate biometric signal is received.

50. (Currently Amended) A method of enrolling, by a transmitter sub-system, biometric signatures into a database of biometric signatures in a system for providing secure access to a controlled item, the system comprising the transmitter sub-system and a receiver sub-system for providing access to the controlled item dependent upon an accessibility attribute received from the transmitter sub-system; said method comprising the steps of:

storing a biometric signal received by the transmitter sub-system in the memory and database as an administrator signature; and
enabling administrative processing of information stored in the database if when a legitimate sequence of biometric signals, each signal matching the stored administrator signature, is received by the transmitter.

51. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer program product having a computer readable storage medium having comprising:~~

a computer program recorded therein ~~for directing , when executed by a processor, stores in a memory and enrolls to execute a method for enrolling~~, by a transmitter sub-system, biometric signatures into a database of biometric signatures in a system ~~configured to provide for providing~~ secure access to a controlled item, the system comprising ~~a processor, the memory, the transmitter sub-system and a receiver sub-system configured to provide for providing~~ access to the controlled item dependent upon an accessibility attribute received from the transmitter sub-system; said program comprising:

~~code, when executed by the processor, for storing that stores~~ a biometric signal received by the transmitter sub-system in the ~~memory and database~~ as an administrator signature; and

~~code, when executed by the processor, for enabling that enables~~ administrative processing of information stored in the ~~memory and database if when~~ a ~~legitimate sequence of biometric signals, each signal matching the stored~~ administrator signature, is received by the transmitter.

52. (Currently Amended) A system for providing secure access to a controlled item, the system comprising:

a database of biometric signatures;

a transmitter subsystem comprising:

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a biometric sensor for receiving a biometric signal;
means for matching the biometric signal against members of the database of biometric signatures to thereby output an accessibility attribute;
means for emitting a secure access signal conveying information dependent upon said accessibility attribute; and
means for enrolling biometric signatures into the database, using a legitimate sequence of one or more biometric signals to enrol each biometric signature; and
a receiver sub-system comprising[[;]] :
means for receiving the transmitted secure access signal; and
means for providing access to the controlled item dependent upon said information.

53. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 5 52, wherein the means for enrolling biometric signatures comprises:

means for determining if when the database of biometric signatures is empty; and
means for storing a biometric signal received by the biometric sensor in the database as an administrator signature if when the database of biometric signatures is empty.

54. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 6 53, wherein the means for enrolling biometric signatures further comprises means for, if when an administrator signature has been stored in the database, classifying a the legitimate sequence of biometric signals, each signal matching the administrator signature, as control information.

55. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 7 54, wherein the means for enrolling biometric signatures further comprises means for determining if when said sequence of biometric signals is legitimate dependent upon whether at least one of the number and duration of the signals are appropriate, and whether the signals are received within a predetermined time.

56. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 7 54, wherein the means for enrolling biometric signatures further comprises means for amending information stored in the database depending upon the control information.

57. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 7 54, wherein the means for enrolling biometric signatures further comprises means for classifying a subsequent biometric signal as one of an administrator signature and an ordinary signature depending upon the control information.

58. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 4 48, wherein the transmitter sub-system is incorporated into at least one of (a) a remote control module comprising at least one of a key fob and a mobile communication device, and (b) an enclosure mounted next to the controlled item.

59. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 6 53 further comprising means for providing a feedback signal for directing input of the control information.

60. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 12 59, wherein the means for providing the feedback signal comprises at least one of a visual indicator and an audio indicator.

61. (Currently Amended) A transmitter subsystem adapted for operating to operate in a system for providing configured to secure access to a controlled item, the system comprising a processor, a memory, a database of biometric signatures, said transmitter subsystem, and a receiver sub-system comprising means for receiving a transmitted secure access signal, and means for providing access to the controlled item dependent upon information in said secure access signal, said transmitter sub-system comprising:

a biometric sensor for receiving configured to receive a biometric signal; means for emitting a secure access signal capable of granting access to the controlled item; and

means for enrolling said biometric signatures into the memory and the database, using a legitimate sequence of one or more biometric signals to enrol each biometric signature.

62. (Currently Amended) A transmitter sub-system according to claim 14 61, wherein the means for enrolling said biometric signatures into the database comprises:

means for storing the biometric signal received by the biometric sensor in the database as an administrator signature if when the database of biometric signatures is empty;

means for, if when an administrator signature has been stored in the database, classifying a legitimate sequence of one or more biometric signals, each signal matching the administrator signature, as control information; and

means for performing at least one of (a) amending information stored in the database depending upon the control information, and (b) classifying a subsequent biometric signal as one of an administrator signature and an ordinary signature depending upon the control information.

63. (Currently Amended) A method of enrolling, by a transmitter sub-system, biometric signatures into a database of biometric signatures in a system for providing secure access to a controlled item, the system comprising (a) said database of biometric signatures, (b) the transmitter subsystem comprising a

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biometric sensor for receiving a biometric signal, means for emitting a secure access signal capable of granting access to the controlled item and means for enrolling said biometric signatures into the database, and (c) a receiver sub-system comprising means for receiving the transmitted secure access signal, and means for providing access to the controlled item dependent upon information in said secure access signal, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a biometric signal;

storing the biometric signal received by the biometric sensor in the database as an administrator signature if when the database of biometric signatures is empty;

if when an administrator signature has been stored in the database,

classifying a legitimate sequence of one or more biometric signals, each signal matching the administrator signature, as control information; and

performing at least one of (a) amending information stored in the database depending upon the control information, and (b) classifying a subsequent biometric signal as one of an administrator signature and an ordinary signature depending upon the control information.

64. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer program product having a computer readable storage medium having a computer program recorded therein, when executed by for directing a processor, to execute executes a method for enrolling to enroll~~, by a transmitter sub-system, biometric signatures into a memory and a database of biometric signatures in a system configured to provide for providing

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secure access to a controlled item, the system comprising (a) said memory and said database of biometric signatures, (b) said transmitter subsystem comprising a biometric sensor for receiving a biometric signal, means for emitting a secure access signal capable of granting access to the controlled item and means for enrolling said biometric signatures into the database, and (c) a receiver sub-system comprising means for receiving the transmitted secure access signal, and means for providing access to the controlled item dependent upon information in said secure access signal, said program comprising:

code, when executed by the processor, that receives for receiving a biometric signal;

code, when executed by the processor, that stores for storing the biometric signal received by the biometric sensor in the database as an administrator signature if when the database of biometric signatures is empty;

code, when executed by the processor for, if when an administrator signature has been stored in the database, classifying that classifies a legitimate sequence of one or more biometric signals, each signal matching the administrator signature, as control information; and

code, when executed by the processor, that performs for performing at least one of (a) amending information stored in the database depending upon the control information, and (b) classifying a subsequent biometric signal as one of an administrator signature and an ordinary signature depending upon the control information.